



GF&R

VOLUNTEER

TIMES

CERT | Fire Corps | Community Assistance

Kim's Corner

By Kim Yonda

Gilbert Fire & Rescue

Volunteer Coordinator



What does beautiful weather, numerous department volunteers, and a western barbecue equate to? Our Annual Volunteer Awards Ceremony! We entered the Wild, Wild, West and the fun began! From bucket rides to lassos to awards and a western attire contest, laughter and fun times was shared by many. Yee-haw to **Sydney Dirks** for compiling a playlist of great music, I even caught a few of you out on the dance floor!

We also celebrated ten years of volunteer service from three fabulous volunteers! Congratulations to **Holly Chalcraft**, **Bill Chaloux**, and **Janice Edgington**. Thank you for sharing the past ten years with us and we look forward to making a difference in Gilbert for many more years together. To discover a complete list of award winners, including the Golden Plunger Recipients, look inside this month's newsletter edition.

For everyone who came out to the event, thank you for sharing the afternoon with us. It was such a treat to also see your families and have the opportunity to thank them for sharing you with us all year long!

HOWDY PARTNER!

2016 VOLUNTEER APPRECIATION EVENT





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2016 Award Winners

All In a Day's Work Award

- Diane Howard
- Janet LaTour

Got Your Back Award

- Felix Castro
- Fred Wolfe

Smithsonian Award

- Megan Neibauer

Columbus Award

- Ira Goode
- Curt Ward

Bells & Whistles Award

- Larry MacDonald

The Wonka Award

- Pastor Rick Oller

The Energizer Bunny Award

- Diane Nielsen

The Going the Extra Mile Award

- Holly Chalcraft
- Dianna Erickson
- Ryan Keating

Feather in One's Cap Award

- Pauline Senra

Shenanigans Award

- Jon Switzer

The Oscars Award

- Marinos Garbis
- Gayle Schmidt
- Michael Bryant

Quiet but Dangerous Award

- Ruben Diaz

Assigned Parking Award

- Johnna Switzer



Congratulations to this year's
Golden Plunger Winners!

(pictured from left to right)

Judy Slack, Ed Taggard,

Sonja Grosch

Thank you for everything you do!

Congratulations to our Volunteers
who have shared 10 years of service
with the department.

Holly Chalcraft (pictured with Chief Jobusch)

Bill Chaloux

Janice Edgington





photo credit: https://www.boosterthon.com/wp-content/themes/BoosterThon_WPTheme/_public/logo.png

GF&R VIP VOLUNTEER

By Judy Slack, GF&R Volunteer

Cesar Mayorga has lived in Gilbert with his family since 2006. He attends Mesa Community College and works at In-N-Out Burger. He has been a Gilbert Fire & Rescue Volunteer with Community Assistance for two years. Cesar enjoys the knowledge he has gained and the friendships he's made through the program.

Cesar is passionate about becoming a fire fighter. One of his greatest accomplishments is to have earned his Associates Degree in Emergency Management & Operations in 2015. He is also committed to improving himself in every aspect of life. When not volunteering, attending school or working, Cesar enjoys playing sports and hanging out with friends. Cesar's volunteering philosophy is to do everything possible to help fellow citizens -- to maximize available resources to make their situations better.



Judy Slack moved to Gilbert when the population sign was being updated to 12K in 1983 and there was only one traffic light in town. She raised her three children here (Go Tigers!) and has been active in the community all along. Judy has been a Girl Scout Leader, a Cub Scout Den Mother, and thoroughly enjoyed cheering her kids in sports. The kids are mostly launched and family life revolves around 7 grandkids (soon to be 8). Family time either in AZ or NY is what she's most passionate about.

Originally from Oswego, NY--snow country East of Buffalo--Judy moved to Arizona to see what it would be like to spend a winter without snow. One of the biggest challenges she faced was building a family of friends when she moved so far from home. She feels she has been blessed beyond belief with the people she's met and come to love along the way.

Judy has been involved with CERT for 11 years and Community Assistance for just over 3. She looks forward to every shift, event, and even the training sessions as a chance to help others, get to know like-minded volunteers, and learn new things. Her volunteering philosophy is that volunteering is a win-win proposition. Judy's hobbies include sewing, knitting, and reading a good mystery novel or well-written biography.



GF&R Volunteer, Judy Slack, made a quick stop at Jacksonville Fire and Rescue Station 42, Jacksonville, Florida.

**COM25I Volunteers
Ira Goode and Polly
Turner provided
excellent customer
service and went above
and beyond to help a
Gilbert resident.**

**Special Welcome to our new
GF&R COM25I Volunteers:**

Kevin Barton

Tyson O'Steen

Test Yourself!

Renewal is in progress so it is time to do a review of some important things we must be mindful of as we serve Gilbert Fire & Rescue as volunteers. Below are some general questions that pertain to all volunteers. Let's see how you do!

1. When arriving at a major event such as Everyday Heroes, the Annual Meeting, the Appreciation Event, and other times when the Volunteer Coordinator is in charge (Incident Command) you should
 - A. bring any paperwork that you might need to give to the Volunteer Coordinator so she can take it back to the office with her.
 - B. go directly to the Volunteer Coordinator, let her know you have arrived, and share a bit about how your day is going as she enjoys hearing from each of us
 - C. get your area/display ready for the event if necessary, visit with other volunteers and assist the Volunteer Coordinator if she gives you a specific task to perform. Allow the Volunteer Coordinator to complete her last minute tasks without interruption so everything is ready to go at the correct time.
 - D. Begin to look through things that are in boxes and bags and set them up wherever you think would be appropriate.
2. When attending a community event and assisting at a Gilbert Fire & Rescue Volunteer Program table where there is a display of clothing, equipment, supplies, etc. you should:
 - A. Feel free to give away of the volunteer clothing items if people should ask for them.
 - B. Give away any of the items on display such as items from a CERT backpack or a COM 251 or COM 251 fanny pack or the backpack or fanny pack itself.
 - C. Never give away any items related to the volunteer program as these are items that should only be worn/used by credentialed Gilbert Fire & Rescue volunteers.
3. When using a radio while on shift (COM251 or COM252), one should remember which of the following (more than one answer may apply):
 - A. Channel 1 is dispatch
 - B. Use proper communications when speaking with dispatch
 - C. State only what is necessary in speaking with dispatch and clear the line as soon as as possible.
 - D. When speaking with dispatch remember that everyone else on Channel 1 can hear what you are saying and that no other unit can communicate via Channel 1 while you are speaking.
4. All Gilbert Fire & Rescue Department credentialed volunteers are classified as "emergency workers" as you may be activated to perform or support emergency management activities or perform emergency functions.
 - A. True
 - B. False

Answers: 1) C; 2) C; 3) A, B, C, D; 4) A



Interested in Weather?

Become a National Weather Service Storm Spotter!

A free training class will be held in Gilbert on Tuesday April 12th that will teach people how to properly identify and report significant weather phenomena and contribute to public safety. Even with sophisticated technology like radar and satellites, we still need ground truth information from trained weather spotters throughout the year. You will learn about how thunderstorms work, how to identify cloud features associated with microbursts and tornadoes, visually estimate wind speeds, and how your reports tie in to warnings and advisories issued by the National Weather Service (NWS). In addition, you will learn about all of the services available from the NWS. See below for details on time and location.

Adult volunteers are community minded individuals, who understand that they play an essential role in providing storm information to the National Weather Service. Anyone can be a spotter and we encourage those that like to pay attention to the weather to become involved.

In Arizona, the NWS Phoenix Office forecasts for Maricopa, La Paz, Yuma, southern Gila, and northwest Pinal counties. In southeast California, we forecast for Imperial and Eastern Riverside counties.

Time: April 12th 7 pm – 9 pm

Location: Gilbert Fire Dept. Administration
85 E. Civic Center Dr.

Registration: send email to kim.yonda-lead@gilbertaz.gov
or call 480-503-6357

Immediately following the presentation, completion certificates will be issued and program participation will be confirmed. If you have any questions, please contact Ken Waters or Austin Jamison at the NWS Phoenix Forecast Office – (602) 275-0073 (option 5) or visit **weather.gov/phoenix** and click on the link for “Skywarn” on the left hand side of the homepage.

Mark Your Calendars

March & April

March 22nd	6:00-8:30pm	CPR and AED	Room 6	CERT, Fire Corps, VIPS
March 30th	6:00-9:00pm	First Aid	Room 6	CERT, Fire Corps, VIPS
April 4th	5:30-8:00pm	COM 25I Radio Communications 102	Room 6	COM 25I
April 12th	7:00-9:00pm	Storm Spotters Class	Amphitheater	*Open to the public
April 25th	6:00-8:00pm	COM 25I Quarterly meeting	Room 6	COM 25I

Words of Wisdom

this month's courtesy of Judy Slack, GF&R Volunteer

*"Only the highway of
useful service leads to the
city of happiness".*

-Napoleon Hill

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